

REMARKS

At the outset, the Examiner is thanked for the thorough review and consideration of the pending application. The Non-Final Office Action dated June 11, 2010 has been received and its contents carefully reviewed.

Also, the Examiner is thanked for the courtesies extended during the personal interview on September 1, 2010. During the interview, the Examiner explained that the election of October 22, 2004, was no longer effective and that the invention to be examined during prosecution is directed to a species that includes an auxiliary common line.

By this response, claims 4 and 17 are hereby amended. Accordingly, claims 2-4, 7-19, 21, 22, and 27-42 are currently pending. Reexamination and reconsideration of the pending claims is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, claims 4 and 17 are objected to because of informalities. Applicant respectfully traverses this objection in light of the amendments to claims 4 and 17.

Claims 4 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. Applicant respectfully traverses this objection in light of the amendments to claims 4 and 17.

Claims 4 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as failing to set forth the subject matter which applicants regard as their invention. Applicant respectfully traverses this objection in light of the amendments to claims 4 and 17.

Claims 2, 4, 7, 10, 12, 17, 18, 21, 22 and 33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Applicant's allegedly admitted prior art (APA) in view of Jeon et al. (Jeon) USPAT 6,362,858 B1, Wakagi et al. (Wakagi) USPAT 6,300,995 B1, and further in view of Ando et al. (Ando) USPAT 6,356,330 B1.

Claims 4 and 17 recite combinations of features including, for example, "an auxiliary common line connected with the plurality of common electrodes, the auxiliary common line covering the common line such that the auxiliary common line contacts side and top surfaces of the common line." Jeon, Wakagi and Ando, alone or in combination, fail to teach or suggest at

least these features in combination with the other features of the claimed invention. Accordingly, independent claims 4 and 17 are allowable, and dependent claims 2, 7, 10, 12, 18, 21, 22 and 33 are allowable. Withdrawal of the rejection of claims 2, 4, 7, 10, 12, 17, 18, 21, 22 and 33 is respectfully requested.

Claims 13-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over APA in view of Jeon, Wakagi and Ando, as applied to claims 4 and 12 above, in view of Yoshioka et al. (Yoshioka) USPAT 6,323,918 B1.

As explained above, Jeon, Wakagi and Ando, alone or in combination, fail to teach or suggest all the features of claim 4. Yoshioka fails to remedy the deficiencies of Jeon, Wakagi and Ando. Accordingly, claims 13-15, which depend from claim 4, are allowable. Withdrawal of the rejection of claims 13-15 is respectfully requested.

Claims 3 and 34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over APA in view of Jeon, Wakagi and Ando, as applied to claims 4 and 17 above, in view of Colgan et al. (Colgan) USPAT 6,278,502 B1.

As explained above, Jeon, Wakagi and Ando, alone or in combination, fail to teach or suggest all the features of claims 4 and 17. Colgan fails to remedy the deficiencies of Jeon, Wakagi and Ando. Accordingly, claims 3 and 34, which depend from claims 4 and 17, are allowable. Withdrawal of the rejection of claims 3 and 34 is respectfully requested.

Claims 8, 9 and 32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over APA in view of Jeon, Wakagi and Ando, as applied to claims 1 and 17 above, in view of Son et al. (Son) USPAT US 2002/0008824 A1.

As explained above, Jeon, Wakagi and Ando, alone or in combination, fail to teach or suggest all the features of claims 4 and 17. Son fails to remedy the deficiencies of Jeon, Wakagi and Ando. Accordingly, claims 8, 9 and 32, which depend from claims 4 and 17, are allowable. Withdrawal of the rejection of claims 8, 9 and 32 is respectfully requested.

Claims 27-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over APA in view of Jeon, Wakagi and Ando, as applied to claims 1 and 17 above, in view of Ishikura et al. (Ishikura) USPAT 6,219,125 B1.

As explained above, Jeon, Wakagi and Ando, alone or in combination, fail to teach or suggest all the features of claim 17. Ishikura fails to remedy the deficiencies of Jeon, Wakagi and Ando. Accordingly, claims 27-30, which depend from claim 17, are allowable. Withdrawal of the rejection of claims 27-30 is respectfully requested.

Claim 31 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over APA in view of Jeon, Wakagi, Ando and Ishikura, as applied to claim 28 above, and further in view of Colgan.

As explained above, Jeon, Wakagi and Ando, alone or in combination, fail to teach or suggest all the features of claim 17. Ishikura and Colgan fail to remedy the deficiencies of Jeon, Wakagi and Ando. Accordingly, claim 31, which depend from claim 17, is allowable. Withdrawal of the rejection of claim 31 is respectfully requested.

Claim 16 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over APA in view of Jeon, Wakagi and Ando and Yoshioka, as applied to claims above, and further in view of Nakashima, USPAT 6,049,365.

As explained above, Jeon, Wakagi and Ando, alone or in combination, fail to teach or suggest all the features of claim 4. Yoshioka and Nakashima fail to remedy the deficiencies of Jeon, Wakagi and Ando. Accordingly, claim 16, which depend from claim 4, is allowable. Withdrawal of the rejection of claim 16 is respectfully requested.

Applicants believe the foregoing amendments place the application in condition for allowance and early, favorable action is respectfully solicited.

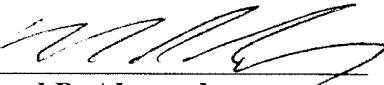
If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at (202) 496-7500 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance. All correspondence should continue to be sent to the below-listed address.

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. §1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911.

Dated: September 10, 2010

Respectfully submitted,

By:


Michael P. Alexander
Registration No.: 50,961
McKENNA LONG & ALDRIDGE LLP
1900 K Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20006
(202) 496-7500
Attorneys for Applicant